

CLAIMS

25. (amended) A tie block retainer for a concrete tie using a releasable device for retaining tie blocks (two each) inserted in a concrete tie, wherein the tie block retainer comprises of a cast iron insert equipped with an anchor member for anchorage in the said concrete tie, and with a curved slot at the top of the said anchor member to receive leaf springs that are secured by a vertical pin inserted into aligned holes on top of the said anchor member.

26. (amended) A tie block retainer for a steel tie using a releasable device for retaining tie blocks (two each) inserted in steel tie, wherein the block retainer comprises of a cast iron insert equipped with an anchor member having a threaded extension for attachment to the said steel tie, and with a curved slot at the top of the said anchor member to receive leaf springs that are secured by a vertical pin inserted into aligned holes on top of the said anchor member.

27. (amended) A tie block retainer of claim 25 wherein a space is left between the bottom surface of the bottom leaf spring and the corresponding contact surface of the tie block inserted in a concrete tie so that the upward movement of the running rail occurring at a certain distance from applied wheel load is facilitated without lifting the concrete tie from its contact plane on ballast.

28. (amended) A tie block retainer of claim 26 wherein a space is left between the bottom surface of the bottom leaf spring and the corresponding contact surface of the tie block inserted in a steel tie so that the upward movement of the rail occurring at a certain distance from applied wheel load is facilitated without lifting the steel tie from its contact plane on ballast.

29. (amended) A tie block sleeve made of electrically insulating material and attached to the top of a tie block that is inserted in a railway tie in such a manner that the said block sleeve provides an overhang continuous around the said tie block, and wherein the said tie block sleeve

protrudes outward and slopes downward in such a manner that the bottom side of the said overhang is protected from directly falling rain water.